(b) if so, the names of such species; and

(c) the number of criminals punished so far?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Persons indulging in poaching and illegal trade of frogs (Genus Rana) are liable to be punished with imprisonment upto three years or with fine upto a maximum amount of rupees twenty five thousand (Rs. 25,000) or with both.

(c) The information regarding poaching and illegal trade of only critically endangered species is compiled and collated at the level of Central Government and hence information regarding number of persons punished for offences of killing of frogs are not maintained.

Cutting forests by Century Pulp and Paper Mills in Uttaranchal

†4330. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that forests are being cut down speedily by the Century Pulp and Paper Mills in the Lalkuan area of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to check cutting of forests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Government of Uttaranchal has intimated that steps have been taken for strengthening the forest protection machinery and also amending the Indian Forest Act, 1927 making penalties against illicit fellings more stringent. The State Government has constituted Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) in 1200 villages and *Van Panchayats* in another 6700 villages for protection and development of forests.

Cities covered under Ganga Action Plan in Uttaranchal

†4331. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of cities of Uttaranchal covered under Ganga Action Plan, as on date;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.